

Correlated Isocurvature Fluctuation in Quintessence and Suppressed CMB Anisotropies at Low Multipoles

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We consider cosmic microwave background (CMB) anisotropy in models with quintessence taking into account of isocurvature fluctuation in the quintessence. It is shown that, if the primordial fluctuation of the quintessence has a correlation with the adiabatic density fluctuations, CMB angular power spectrum C_l at low multipoles can be suppressed without affecting C_l at high multipoles. Possible scenario of generating correlated mixture of the quintessence and adiabatic fluctuations is also discussed.

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The recent measurement of the cosmic microwave background (CMB) angular power spectrum C_l by the Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe (WMAP) [1] has greatly improved our understanding of the universe. In particular, since the CMB angular power spectrum is sensitive to the properties of the origin and evolution of the cosmic density fluctuations, now we are at the position to test various scenarios of generating cosmic density fluctuations, which requires some interplay of astrophysics, cosmology, and particle physics. In addition, the shape of the CMB angular power spectrum also depends on various cosmological parameters, and hence many of the cosmological parameters are now precisely determined.

One of the important messages from the WMAP is that our universe is well described by a low-density cold dark matter (CDM) model with (almost) flat geometry. In other words, the WMAP confirmed the existence of the dark energy which is also suggested by the observations of high red-shift Type-Ia supernovae [2].

Although the cosmological constant is the most famous candidate of the dark energy, a slowly evolving scalar field, dubbed as “quintessence” [3], is another important possibility. In models with quintessence, however, behavior of the CMB angular power spectrum may be different from that in the Λ CDM model (where the cosmological constant is assumed as the dark energy). One reason is that, since the quintessence is a dynamical scalar field, its amplitude may acquire primordial fluctuation and that isocurvature fluctuation may exist in the quintessence sector, which affects behaviors of the CMB angular power spectrum.

So far, effects of the primordial fluctuation of the quintessence have been studied only for the cases where the primordial fluctuation of the quintessence is uncorrelated with the adiabatic density fluctuations. In this case, if the quintessence-dominated universe is realized in very recent epoch as in the Λ CDM model, effects of the quintessence fluctuation on C_l are only on very low multipoles. In addition, in the uncorrelated case, C_l at low multipoles are always enhanced [4,5]. It is possible, however, that the primordial fluctuation of the quintessence

has correlation with the adiabatic density fluctuations. (For explicit model of generating correlated mixture of the quintessence and adiabatic fluctuations, see the discussion below.)

Thus, in this letter, we study the CMB angular power spectrum in models with quintessence paying particular attention to the effects of the correlation of the quintessence fluctuation with adiabatic density fluctuations. If the correlation exists, behavior of the CMB angular power spectrum becomes different from the uncorrelated case. In particular, as we will discuss, C_l at low multipoles may be suppressed without affecting the shape of the CMB angular power spectrum at high multipoles, which may be related to the suppression of the measured values of C_l at low multipoles. (For other models of suppressing C_l at low multipoles, see [6].)

Let us start with presenting the framework. Here we consider the scenario where the dark energy of the universe is given by a potential energy of a slowly evolving scalar field, quintessence Q ; if the slow-roll condition is satisfied for the quintessence field Q , equation-of-state parameter of Q is almost -1 and the energy density of Q behaves as the cosmological constant. Although various models of quintessence have been proposed, we adopt a simple approximation of the quintessence potential; we use the parabolic potential with a constant term:

$$V(Q) = V_0 + \frac{1}{2}m_Q^2 Q^2. \quad (1)$$

We assume that Q has non-vanishing initial amplitude. In our study, for simplicity, we consider m_Q comparable to (or smaller than) the present expansion rate of the universe. In addition, V_0 is assumed to be of the order of the present critical density or smaller. With such a small value of m_Q (and V_0), slow-roll condition for Q is satisfied until very recently and energy fraction of the quintessence becomes sizable only at the very recent epoch. In this case, shape of the CMB angular power spectrum at high multipoles is almost unaffected. Notice that the above potential is a good approximation for some quintessence models, like the cosine-type one [7].

Since the quintessence is a dynamical scalar field, its amplitude may fluctuate. In particular, if its (effective)

mass during inflation is smaller than the expansion rate, the quintessence field also acquires quantum fluctuation. Such a primordial fluctuation becomes a new source of the cosmic density fluctuations and affects the CMB angular power spectrum.

Evolution and effects of the primordial fluctuation of Q have been studied for the case where the primordial fluctuation of the quintessence is not correlated with the adiabatic fluctuations [8,4,5]. Fluctuation of the quintessence field can be, however, correlated with the adiabatic fluctuations. If some correlation exists, effects of the primordial fluctuation of Q on the CMB angular power spectrum are expected to be different from those in the uncorrelated case. Hereafter, we study the effects of quintessence fluctuation for the case where the correlation between the primordial fluctuation of Q and the adiabatic fluctuations exists.

In order to parameterize the relative size of the primordial quintessence fluctuation and the adiabatic fluctuations, we define

$$r_Q \equiv \frac{\delta Q_{\text{init}}}{M_* \Psi_{\text{RD}}}. \quad (2)$$

(Strictly speaking, the above expression is valid only for the case where δQ_{init} and Ψ_{RD} are fully correlated. For the case where δQ_{init} and Ψ_{RD} are uncorrelated, for example, it should be understood as $r_Q = \sqrt{\langle \delta Q_{\text{init}}^2 \rangle} / M_* \sqrt{\langle \Psi_{\text{RD}}^2 \rangle}$.) Here, δQ_{init} is the primordial fluctuation of Q , Ψ denotes the fluctuation of the (0,0) component of the metric in the Newtonian gauge: $g_{00} = a^2(1 + 2\Psi)$ with a being the scale factor [9], and M_* is the reduced Planck scale. In addition, Ψ_{RD} is the metric perturbation related to the adiabatic density fluctuation in the radiation-dominated epoch. We assume that Ψ_{RD} is (almost) scale-invariant, as suggested by the WMAP [10].

If we calculate the CMB angular power spectrum with non-vanishing values of δQ_{init} and Ψ_{RD} , we obtain the form

$$C_l = C_l^{(\text{adi})} + C_l^{(\text{corr})} + C_l^{(\text{uncorr})}. \quad (3)$$

Here, $C_l^{(\text{adi})}$ is the result with purely adiabatic density fluctuations. With the cosmological and model parameters used in the following analysis, $C_l^{(\text{adi})}$ almost agrees with the CMB angular spectrum for the Λ CDM model $C_l^{(\Lambda\text{CDM})}$. On the contrary, $C_l^{(\text{uncorr})}$ is the CMB angular power spectrum purely generated from δQ_{init} , while $C_l^{(\text{corr})}$ parameterizes the effects of correlation.

When δQ_{init} and Ψ_{RD} are uncorrelated, $C_l^{(\text{corr})} = 0$. Furthermore, $C_l^{(\text{uncorr})}$ is increased at low multipoles. As a result, the total CMB angular power spectrum may be significantly enhanced at low multipoles [4,5].

If δQ_{init} and Ψ_{RD} have correlation, $C_l^{(\text{corr})}$ plays important roles. To see the effects of the correlation, we calculate the CMB angular power spectrum for the case where

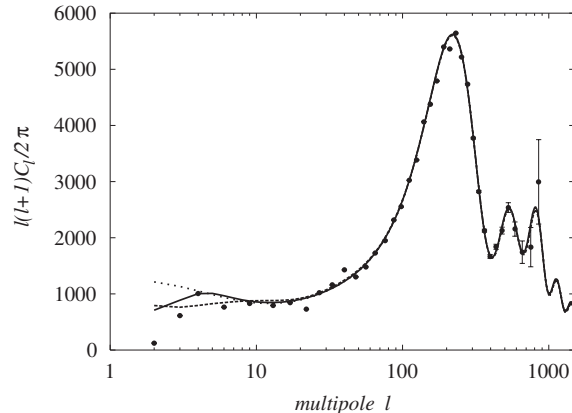


FIG. 1. The CMB angular power spectrum generated from the correlated mixture of the quintessence and adiabatic fluctuations. We take (a) $m_Q = 10^{-42}$ GeV, $V_0 = 0$ and $r_Q = 400$ with $\Omega_b = 0.046$, $\Omega_m = 0.27$, $h = 0.72$, and $\tau = 0.166$ [10] (solid), and (b) $m_Q = 10^{-40}$ GeV, $V_0 = 3.0 \times 10^{-47}$ GeV and $r_Q = 2.5$ with $\Omega_b = 0.048$, $\Omega_m = 0.27$, $h = 0.7$, and $\tau = 0.2$ (dashed). (Here, Ω_b and Ω_m are density parameters of baryon and non-relativistic matter, respectively, h the Hubble constant in units of 100 km/sec/Mpc, and τ the reionization optical depth.) The full correlation between δQ_{init} and Ψ_{RD} is assumed. Result for the purely adiabatic Λ CDM model is also shown in the dotted line. (For cosmological parameters, we use the best-fit values suggested by the WMAP for the power-law Λ CDM model.) For comparison, we also plot the data points measured by the WMAP [12]. (The errors are measurement errors only.)

δQ_{init} and Ψ_{RD} are fully correlated: $\langle \delta Q_{\text{init}} \Psi_{\text{RD}} \rangle^2 = \langle \delta Q_{\text{init}}^2 \rangle \langle \Psi_{\text{RD}}^2 \rangle$. In our numerical analysis, we always take $Q_{\text{init}} > 0$. In this case, primordial fluctuation of the energy density of Q has positive correlation with Ψ_{RD} when $r_Q > 0$. (For details of the calculation, see [4,5].)

In Fig. 1, we plot the resultant CMB angular power spectra for several cases with positive values of r_Q : (a) $r_Q = 35$ with $m_Q = 10^{-42}$ GeV and $V_0 = 0$, and (b) $r_Q = 2.5$ with $m_Q = 10^{-40}$ GeV and $V_0 = 3.0 \times 10^{-47}$ GeV. (We checked that these data points are consistent with the recent Type 1a supernovae data [11].) Initial amplitude of the quintessence Q_{init} is determined so that the present energy fraction of the quintessence becomes $\Omega_Q = 1 - \Omega_m = 0.73$, which gives $Q_{\text{init}} = 8.2 \times 10^{18}$ GeV and 7.5×10^{17} GeV for the cases (a) and (b), respectively. As one can see, if $r_Q > 0$, sizable suppression of the low multipoles is possible compared to the Λ CDM model. Notice that, in the uncorrelated case, such a suppression of C_l at the low multipoles cannot be realized. It is also notable that, even in the correlated case, the CMB angular power spectrum at higher multipoles is almost the same as that in the Λ CDM case.

In order to see how much C_2 can be suppressed relative to the Λ CDM model, in Fig. 2, we plot the ratio

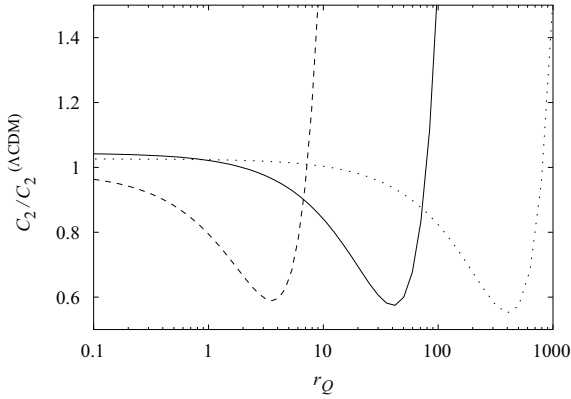


FIG. 2. $C_2/C_2^{(\Lambda\text{CDM})}$ as a function of r_Q for cases (a) and (b) given in Fig. 1 (solid and dashed, respectively), and for $m_Q = 10^{-43}$ GeV and $V_0 = 0$ (dotted) with $\Omega_b = 0.046$, $\Omega_m = 0.27$, $h = 0.72$, and $\tau = 0.166$. For $C_l^{(\Lambda\text{CDM})}$, we use the best-fit values of the cosmological parameters suggested by the WMAP. The full correlation between δQ_{init} and Ψ_{RD} is assumed.

$C_2/C_2^{(\Lambda\text{CDM})}$ as a function of r_Q . Since $C_l^{(\text{corr})} \propto r_Q$ and $C_l^{(\text{uncorr})} \propto r_Q^2$, $C_l^{(\text{uncorr})}$ is more important than $C_l^{(\text{corr})}$ when r_Q is large. In this case, the ratio $C_2/C_2^{(\Lambda\text{CDM})}$ becomes larger than 1. If r_Q is smaller, however, $C_l^{(\text{corr})}$ becomes sizable and C_2 can be suppressed. As one can see, with the correlated primordial fluctuation in the quintessence amplitude, $C_2/C_2^{(\Lambda\text{CDM})}$ can be as small as ~ 0.6 if r_Q is properly chosen. Importantly, effects of δQ_{init} is limited to C_l with small l and hence the shape of the CMB angular power spectrum at higher multipoles is unchanged. Thus, the correlated fluctuation in the quintessence sector provides a new mechanism to suppress C_l at very low multipoles without affecting the high multipoles. This may have some relevance with the suppressed values of the CMB angular power spectrum at low multipoles measured by the WMAP.

Suppression of C_l at low multipoles improves the agreement of the theoretical prediction with the observation. To discuss this issue quantitatively, we calculate the goodness-of-fit parameter χ^2 using the numerical program provided by the WMAP collaboration with the WMAP data [12]. Compared to the ΛCDM model, we found that the χ^2 variable can decrease in models with quintessence. For example, for the cases (a) and (b) given in Fig. 1, changes of the goodness-of-fit parameter are $\Delta\chi^2 = -2.1$ and -1.2 , respectively. As can be understood from the figure, the changes in χ^2 are only from the low multipoles.

In our study, we have also calculated C_l with negative values of r_Q . Since $C_l^{(\text{corr})}$ is proportional to r_Q , the resultant CMB angular power spectrum is enhanced at the low multipoles when $r_Q < 0$. Thus, if the suppression

of C_l at the low multipoles measured by the WMAP is related to the primordial fluctuation of the quintessence, positive correlation with the metric perturbation Ψ_{RD} (i.e., $r_Q > 0$) is required in the present model.

So far, we have discussed effects of primordial fluctuations of quintessence on the CMB angular power spectrum, so we would like to comment on other cosmological perturbations in our scenario. Since the quintessence dominates the universe at very recent epoch, its effects are only on fluctuations with very large wavelength comparable to the present Hubble distance. In other words, density fluctuations with smaller wavelength are determined by the adiabatic part of the fluctuation and hence the results for those perturbations are the same as the predictions of the simple inflationary paradigm.

Finally, we present a possible scenario which generates the correlated fluctuations. We use the fact that fluctuations of two scalar fields can be correlated if they have a mixing during the inflation [13]. We consider the case with two scalar fields, Q and ϕ . (In the following, primordial fluctuation of ϕ becomes the dominant source of the adiabatic density fluctuations, as we will see below.) Q and ϕ are defined as mass eigenstates in the present universe. In the early universe (i.e., for example, during inflation), however, Hubble-induced interaction may cause a mixing between Q and ϕ and hence the mass eigenstates may be linear combinations of them. We denote the mass eigenstates as ξ and η , and define the mixing angle θ as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta(t) & -\sin\theta(t) \\ \sin\theta(t) & \cos\theta(t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q \\ \phi \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4)$$

In our model, $\theta(t)$ varies from non-vanishing value during inflation θ_{inf} to the present value $\theta_{\text{now}} = 0$. If the (effective) mass of η is large during inflation while that of ξ is negligible, then only the ξ field acquires the quantum fluctuation:

$$\delta\xi_{\text{inf}} = \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{2\pi}, \quad \delta\eta_{\text{inf}} = 0, \quad (5)$$

where H_{inf} is the expansion rate during the inflation. Assuming that $\theta(t)$ rapidly changes from θ_{inf} to 0 at the end of inflation, primordial fluctuation of Q and ϕ are given by

$$\delta Q_{\text{init}} = \delta\xi_{\text{inf}} \cos\theta_{\text{inf}}, \quad \delta\phi_{\text{init}} = \delta\xi_{\text{inf}} \sin\theta_{\text{inf}}, \quad (6)$$

and correlated fluctuations are generated in the quintessence and ϕ fields.

The above situation may be realized if the potential of the scalar fields is of the form

$$V = V_0 + \frac{1}{2}m_Q^2 Q^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_\phi^2 \phi^2 + V_{\text{Hubble}}, \quad (7)$$

where

$$V_{\text{Hubble}} = H_{\text{vac}}^2 (Q \sin\theta_{\text{inf}} + \phi \cos\theta_{\text{inf}})^2. \quad (8)$$

Here, V_{Hubble} is the Hubble-induced interaction which is effective only during the inflation with H_{vac} being the expansion rate of the universe induced by the “vacuum energy;” $H_{\text{vac}} = H_{\text{inf}}$ and $H_{\text{vac}} \simeq 0$ for during and after the inflation, respectively. With this potential, one of the mass eigenstates $\eta \simeq \phi + \theta_{\text{inf}} Q$ acquires an effective mass comparable to the expansion rate and its quantum fluctuation during inflation becomes negligibly small. Other mass eigenstate $\xi \simeq Q - \theta_{\text{inf}} \phi$, on the contrary, stays almost massless and it acquires the quantum fluctuation.

If the decay rate of the inflaton field is larger than m_ϕ , slow roll condition is satisfied for ϕ at the time of the inflaton decay. In this case, $\delta\phi_{\text{init}}$ may become the dominant source of the adiabatic density fluctuations. In order to generate the adiabatic fluctuations from the fluctuation of ϕ , we can use the curvaton mechanism [14] where the primordial fluctuation of the curvaton, a late-decaying scalar field, becomes the dominant source of the adiabatic density fluctuations. (Here, we do not identify ϕ as inflaton; in our model, ϕ should acquire large effective mass during inflation and hence ϕ cannot be the inflaton.) Indeed, if the energy density of ϕ once dominates the universe, ϕ plays the role of curvaton and the metric perturbation in the radiation dominated epoch is given by [15]

$$\Psi_{\text{RD}} = -\frac{4}{9} \frac{\delta\phi_{\text{init}}}{\phi_{\text{init}}}, \quad (9)$$

where ϕ_{init} is the initial amplitude of ϕ determined during the inflation. As a result, with Eq. (6), correlated mixture of adiabatic and quintessence fluctuations is generated. In this model, the r_Q parameter is estimated as

$$r_Q = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{H_{\text{inf}}}{M_* \Psi_{\text{RD}}} \cos \theta_{\text{inf}}. \quad (10)$$

Notice that, using $\Psi_{\text{RD}} \sim O(10^{-5})$ and the upper bound $H_{\text{inf}}/M_* \lesssim 7 \times 10^{-5}$ [16], $r_Q \lesssim 1$ in this simple model. Larger value of r_Q is, however, possible if we extend the model. For example, if the coefficient of the kinetic term of Q varies after the inflation, value of δQ (for the canonically normalized field) also changes. Including this effect,

$$r_Q = Z_{Q,\text{inf}}^{-1/2} \frac{H_{\text{inf}}/2\pi}{M_* \Psi_{\text{RD}}} \cos \theta_{\text{inf}}, \quad (11)$$

where $Z_{Q,\text{inf}}$ is the coefficient of the kinetic term of Q during the inflation. (We normalize the present value of Z_Q to be 1.) Thus, if $Z_{Q,\text{inf}} < 1$, r_Q can be enhanced.

In summary, we have seen that the CMB angular power spectrum at small l can be suppressed without affecting that at higher multipoles in models with quintessence, if the primordial fluctuation of the quintessence has correlation with the adiabatic density fluctuations. We have also pointed out that such a correlation may be generated during inflation if the quintessence field has some mixing with other scalar field which is responsible for generating the adiabatic density fluctuations.

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